



1745

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hisao YASUHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1745

Application No.: 09/865,468

Examiner: G. Cantelmo

Filed: May 29, 2001

Docket No.: 109375

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PRETREATMENT OF METAL SAMPLES

#7/B
4.10.32

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
MAR 07 2003
TC 1700

Sir:

In reply to the January 9, 2003 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, lines 15-20, delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

The sample S, from which contaminants are removed by the pretreatment apparatus 4, is introduced into a reaction chamber 15 of the analyzer 3 through a shutter 26 for element analysis of the sample S. An inert gas, such as a helium gas source, is introduced into the reaction chamber 15 through a valve 28. For instance, for oxygen analysis, the sample S is heated in helium gas in a graphite crucible 16 by a heater 30, and generated CO gas and/or CO₂ gas is quantitatively determined by a detector 32 such as an infrared-ray absorbing device or any other suitable device

Page 5, line 30 – page 6, line 14, delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

In any embodiment of the pretreatment apparatus described above, it is preferable that a cooling device is provided to compulsively cool the counter electrodes of an electrode for

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